

Wendy & Kim is the memo & am referring to in my EMLH to Stan Ch.

Interoffice Memo

Date: 1/29/2001

To: Gerry Sotolongo, Beth Deabay

RE: Wenham Lake Watershed Assoc. and Beverly-Salem Water System

FR: *Gina Snyder*

*Stan/Dee
It looks like
there is new info
regarding a potential
impact on a drinking
water supply.
I'll meet to discuss
this. Please
leave me a
voice msg.
I'll call you.
Should meet
with
Amy S*

I wanted to follow up on the issue regarding a potential threat to a drinking water supply in Wenham referred to in an October 25, 2000 email message from William Walshrogalski. A letter attached to Bill's message indicated that a citizens' group felt that the sites had been improperly scored at a lower level than they should have been (Tier II instead of Tier I). A meeting regarding the Tier II sites that have the potential to affect the Wenham Lake drinking water source was not held due to schedule conflicts.

The reason for this follow up is that I attended a presentation on January 26th by Mr. Jan Schlichtman, of Beverly, regarding his experiences with waste site cleanup. During his presentation he talked about some newly obtained information on the impacts of one of the sites (the Vitale fly ash pit site) on Wenham Lake. Mr. Schlichtman showed a part of a presentation that he made to the Salem City Council (available for viewing at the newly formed Wenham Lake Watershed Association website <www.wlwa.org>) part of which are attached hereto.

I believe he also said that the Salem City Council adopted a resolution that was to be sent to EPA as a result of his presentation to the City.

This memo is both a heads-up on the potential for the contact from the City of Salem as well as a recommendation to suggest that we again schedule a dialog on this issue to discuss what role EPA should play. Possibly, this issue would be handled as the issue in Wilmington, with site remediation, public affairs and drinking water programs involved.

Notes:

A) As you may know, in preparation for the planned meeting in December, I briefly reviewed some files for the three particular sites referenced in the letter attached to Bill's memo. The files are at the Northeast Regional office of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. I noted that the site scores were calculated under the Waste Site Cleanup program scoring methodology. The sites' scoring at the Tier II level appears to be mainly due to two factors: 1) there appears to have been little data available on chemical concentrations at the time of site scoring, and little again in the files that I was able to review, and the chemicals that were detected were detected at a low level. Therefore the scores were not high enough for the sites to be scored at a Tier I level; and 2) An evaluation as to whether one of the sites was within a potential drinking water source area concluded that it was not.

B) Mr. Schlichtman has lately been involved in a number of sites around the country and from his remarks, his approach has been to develop local/state/federal partnerships. After his presentation I mentioned to him that EPA was aware of the sites and he suggested that we contact him.



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Wenham Lake Watershed Association

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Today's Date: 1/28/01

TOP STORY:

- **Toxins Found in Fly Ash Core Samples in Wenham Lake**

Top Story/

Toxins Found in Fly Ash Core Samples in Wenham Lake

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Toxins Found in Fly Ash Core Samples in Wenham Lake

	<u>Sediment</u>	<u>Surface</u>
	<u>(ppm)</u>	<u>(ppb)</u>
Metals		
Aluminum	34,000	5,600
Antimony		
Arsenic	82	8
Barium	700	110
Beryllium	3.5	
Boron	52	1,000
Cadmium	0.4	<1
Chromium	34	5
Cobalt		
Copper	59	<20
Iron	19,000	3,700
Lead	46	7
Magnesium		10,300
Manganese	150	130
Mercury	0.48	
Molybdenum		
Nickel	25	
Selenium		
Silver		
Sodium	1770	26,500
Strontium	390	460
Thallium		
Vanadium	110	10
Zinc	58	60
C₁₉-C₃₆ aliphatics	40.8	
Solvents		



Core Sample taken from Wenham Lake, 1/6/01, shows an alarming presence of Fly Ash. Analysis shows presence of toxins.



Pushing the sample from the tube and measuring the size of the fly ash.



The shiny, metallic, and compacted appearance of the fly ash (right) contrasts greatly with the porous appearance of the natural sediments (left).

Click any picture above for a larger view.

"... primary concern is that there may be arsenic and TCE plumes of contamination, which may be beneath the Vitale property and flowing toward Wenham Lake."

David Lang, Chairman
Beverly Conservation
Commission
June 2000



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"Pollution of Wenham Lake, a source of public water supply, continues to occur from leachate and siltation from runoff from the [Vitale] site."

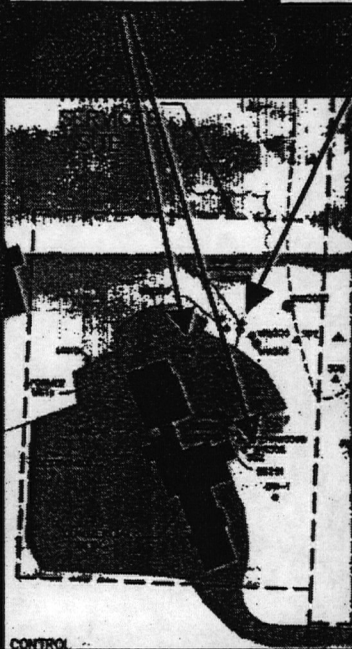
Department of Public Health,
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
May 22, 1975



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SS1,2

MW208



Surface Soil Sampling
Detected:*

C₁₀-C₃₆
aliphatics 33-76 ppm

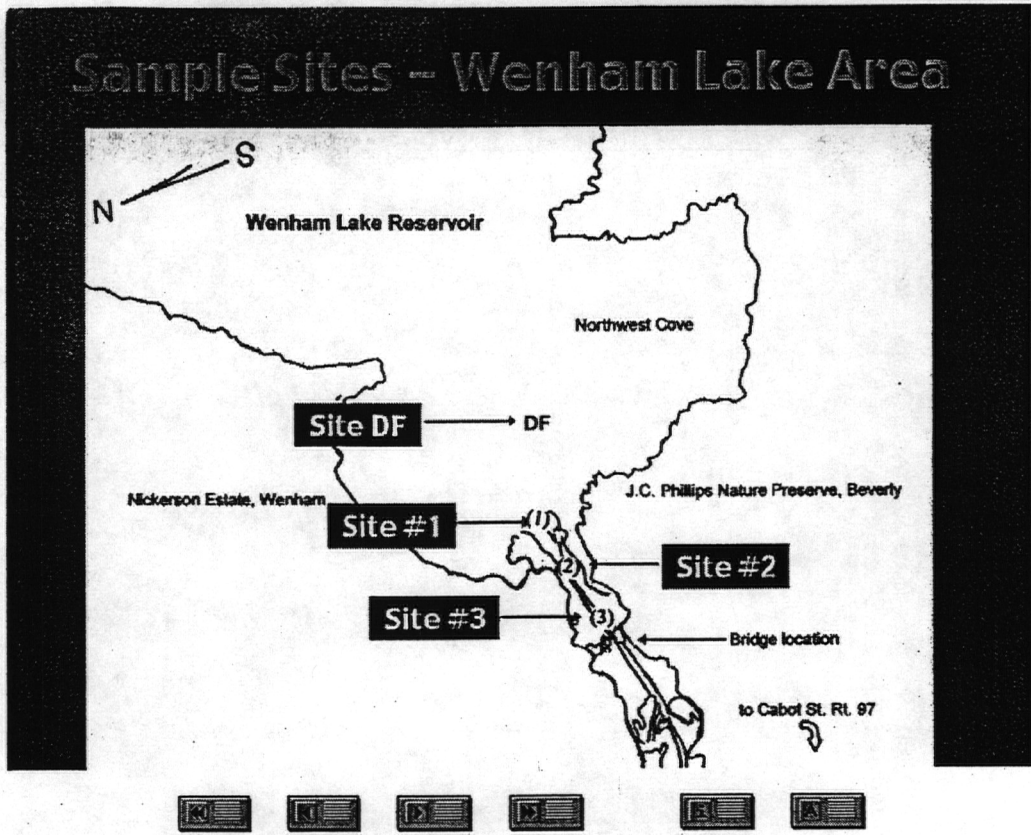
Ground Water Sampling
Detected:*

TCE 19,000 ppb
cis-1,2-DCE 750 ppb
vinyl chloride 55 ppb

*Ransom Environmental
Phase II Site Investigation
April 2000



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Wenham Lake Watershed Association

Findings:

- Runoff from the Vitale site has resulted in extensive deposits of fly ash in the Lake at the Airport Brook, marsh and delta. The fly ash contains substantial amounts of toxic metals which are leaching into the lake.
- Chlorinated solvents at the sites have infiltrated the lake.

Recommended Action:

- This situation requires the immediate attention of local, state and federal regulators and the general public. A comprehensive evaluation and remediation program must be instituted in the earliest timeframe.



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